

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LIMA 05876 032320Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00
PA-01 ICA-11 SP-02 COME-00 EB-08 LAB-04 SIL-01
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R 032245Z JUL 78
FM AMEMBASSY LIMA
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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ELAB, PINT, PE
SUBJECT: TEACHERS STRIKE IN NINTH WEEK

REF: LIMA 5603

1. SUTEP TEACHER'S STRIKE CONTINUES INTO ITS NINTH WEEK AND STILL SEEMS TO HAVE CONSIDERABLE RANK-AND-FILE SUPPORT. IN AREQUIPA AND CUZCO SUTEP TRUNED OUT WELL-ATTENDED DEMONSTRATIONS LAST WEEK. IN LIMA, A SUTEP PROTEST MARCH OR DEMONSTRATION IS MOUNTED EACH DAY, SOME IN THE PLAZA DES ARMAS IN FRONT F THE PRESIDENTIAL PALACE. GOP APPEARS TO BE EXERCISING RESTRAINT IN CONTAINING DEMONSTRATIONS ALTHOUGH "MARKA" CLAIMS FIVE PERSONS KILLED IN YURIMAGUAS 3 WEEKS AGO IN STRIKE RELATED VIOLENCE. HOWEVER, A CTP OFFICIAL CLAIMS THERE HAVE BEEN O REPT NO DEATHS DIRECTLY RELATED TO TEACHERS STRIKE.

2. PARENTS ASSOCIATIONS THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY ARE PRESSUING THE GOP TO SOLVE THE STRIKE. ALTHOUGH THE CONTROLLED PRESS PORTRAYS THE PARENT ASSOCIATIONS AS OPPOSED TO THE SUTEP LEADER-SHIP, THE PRTESTS OF PARENTS ACTUALLY CENTER ON THE NEED TO REOPEN CLASSES RATHER THAN ON PUNISHING STRIKE LEADERS.

3. THE GOP IS INCREASINGLY ANXIOUS TO FIND A SOLUTION BEFORE
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THE OPENING OF THE CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY (JULY 28). WITH MOST OF THE LEFT CHAMPTIONING SUTEP, THE TEACHERS STRIKE THREATENS TO BECOME ONE OF THE FIRST POLITICAL ISSUES RAISED IN ASSEMBLY DEBATES IF IT IS NOT RESOLVED BY THAT TIME. THE APRISTAS MAY BE PREPARED TO FOUND A PARALLEL UNION PROVIDED THE GOP COULD ASSURE SUCH A GROUP SOME BENEFITS IN SALARIES AND ADMINISTRATIVE IMPROVEMENTS. HOWEVER GOP MINISTER OF ECONOMY SILVA IN HIS TV

APPEARANCE JULY 2 (SEPTTEL) WHILE SYMPATHETIC TO THE TEACHERS'
PLIGHT, COULD HOLD OUT ONLY THE HOPE THAT SOME MODEST "READJUSTMENTS"
MIGHT BE AVAILABLE FROM THIS YEAR'S BUDGET.
DECON 12-80.
SHLAUDEMAM

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NNN

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